



*Rock and Role:
The Role of Rocks
and Minerals in
Ancient Times*

Examples of rocks with different characteristics that can be observed and tested.














Rocks can be drawn across an unglazed porcelain tile to observe the “streak.”





Each group will need penny, glass slide, steel nail, and masonry drill bit for assessing hardness.

Mohs Hardness Scale

Mineral Name	Scale Number	Common Object
Diamond	10	
 → Corundum	9	←  Masonry Drill (8.5)
Topaz	8	
 → Quartz	7	←  Steel Nail (6.5)
Orthoclase	6	
Apatite	5	←  Knife/Glass I (5.5)
 → Fluorite	4	←  Copper Penn (3.5)
Calcite	3	←  Fingernail (2.5)
Gypsum	2	
 → Talc	1	

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